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GRAND FETE AT HILLSBOROUGH.

The birth-day of the Marquis of Downshire, upon the completing of his 21st year, was celebrated at Hillsborough on the 9th instant, and never have we seen a more imposing spectacle than was exhibited there on that day. Upwards of 4,500 persons, tenants of the Kilwarlin estate, sat down to dinner at the same instant, and were plentifully supplied with the best that the season could afford. The bells of Hillsborough church, and the band of the Westmeath militia heightened the scene; witnessed by not less than 4,500 spectators besides those who dined. Our space is too confined to give a further detail of this magnificent fete, suffice it to remark, that the regularity, the decent demeanour, of the people on this occasion, evinced the extent of the influence which a good, generous, and courteous landlord can possess over his tenants; and let it be an answer to those who are too ready to cast an imputation of mobishness and tumult on every thing Irish.

Down...Married...Ross Thompson, jun.

esq. of Newry, to Miss Livingston, of said place.

Died...At Donaghadee, on Friday last, Mrs. Galbraith, widow of H. Galbraith, esq. late Port-surveyor of Larne.

L. Denny...Married...Robert Ogilby, esq. of Dungiven, to Joice, eldest daughter of James Scott, esq. of Willsborough, in said county.

LEINSTER.

DUBLIN...Married...Mr. Ennis, to Miss Lawton, King's county. Ed. Archdall, esq. third son of Colonel Archdall, of Castle-Archdall, county Fermanagh, to Matilda, second daughter to W. Humphreys, esq. Gardiner's-row.

Died...The Earl of Arran, one of the Knights of St. Patrick. He is succeeded in his title by Lord Sudley. Mr. Arthur Martin, of Duke-street. In Mecklinburgh-street, Joseph M. Rainsford, esq.

MUNSTER.

CORK...Married...At Cork, B. Watkins, esq. First Lieutenant of the Druid frigate, to Miss Meade, of that city.

Died...At Cork, James Bennett, esq. M.D.

AGRICULTURAL REPORT.

From September 20, till October 20.

SOON after the report for last month was sent to the press, a favourable change took place in the weather, which has continued with very little intermission ever since, and the crops of course have been generally got safe in, except in the early part of the change, that some farmers were induced, by a fear of the return of wet weather, to stack their grain before it was quite fit for it.

The wheat crops are evidently defective in a general way, through the province of Ulster, and the flour made from the new grain is much complained of; in the more southerly quarters of the kingdom, it is said to be much better.

Oats will prove a good average crop in a general way, and the complaints of the thinness of the barley crops now appear to have less foundation, than was at first apprehended.

The taking up the potatoes is in great forwardness, and they appear to turn out of the ground a tolerable crop, and are sold in the markets at a reasonable price; there has seldom happened a finer season for the purpose; if those who plant their potatoes in the drill way, would get into the practice of raising them with the plough, instead of the spade, they would save themselves much trouble and expense, labourers are now become so scarce, and the price of labour so much raised, that it behooves the farmer to adopt every eligible plan that would reduce his expenses, and enable him to meet the great increase of rent.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

IN the wide spreading devastations of war, as nations became more commercial, it was to be expected that commerce should especially feel its effects as one of the means of annoyance towards enemies. Neutrals also were involved; and the haughty combatants of either side refused to permit a free intercourse of the neutral flag; first, under pretence of preventing the contraband of war, such as naval stores, &c. being carried; and in this war, the difficulties to neutrals have been further extended by the fiction of declaring whole countries in a state of blockade, when their ports were not actually invested. This is one object of contest between this government and the United States of North America. Bonaparte, with the usual dexterity which he employs to bring the principles of reform to his aid, in a letter from the minister of

foreign affairs, to the American plenipotentiary, and which we recommend to the attention of our readers, as an important state paper has unfolded the germ of a new code of commercial law, by which the principle is admitted "that the flag protects the merchandize;" or in other words, according to mercantile phrase, that free bottoms, make free goods. By the promulgation of this principle, he will probably conciliate the Americans, and impress on them the idea of superior fairness, when contrasted with the late bungling conduct of our government, in refusing to ratify Mr. Erskine's treaty; showing that they knew neither to concede with dignity nor refuse with firmness, in the higgling modifications of their famous Orders in Council. At the restoration of peace, it is probable that the explanation of the neutral code, will form a prominent demand on the part of France and her allies, and if admitted, will tend to introduce a more equitable system of treating neutrals. It is surely absurd, that because two great nations quarrel, the lesser countries should be debarred from carrying on intercourse with either or both of the belligerents as they please.—After all the casuistry which has been employed to confound the principles of morality between nations, it ought to be essentially the same, and its laws equally obligatory as among individuals. If two powerful neighbours in a town quarrel, he who would attempt to prevent all neighbourhood between his opponent and the other inhabitants, would be justly held in execration. On similar principles, should the intercourse between nations be regulated.

It is a singular and humiliating circumstance that the trade of the British empire, with almost the whole continent of Europe, is carried on either by stealth, or with the occasional connivance of Bonaparte, who sometimes to suit his own convenience, or by way of concession to the states over whom he rules, permits the ports of France and Holland to be opened to trade with these countries, under the mask of neutrals, who are found so useful to supply the mutual wants of the hostile nations, while on our part, this liberty is met by licences from the privy council. Licences have lately been granted on this side to import wheat and burr-stones, commonly called mill-stones from France, but it is said that France has since revoked the permission lately granted by them. It appears however to be a fact, that wheat is cheaper in France, than with us, and thus we have it proved that agriculture is well attended to in that country, when they can spare after the supply of their extensive population. There is no room for reviving the plan of Pitt, to starve the French nation, to whom England now looks for a supply in the case of a harvest less abundant than usual.

If a suspension of the trade of America, should continue, and we again suffer the inconveniences of a want of flax-seed, and other articles, there is room to expect that the people will be weaned from their trust in the infallibility of ministers. Last year we heard this popular cry often echoed; but some events have since occurred to awaken from this dream; the investigations in the last session of parliament, the ministerial duel, and other acknowledged miscarriages, have tended imperceptibly to lessen the confidence in administration, and may probably render the dependence on the wisdom of their councils less strong, and not so generally prevalent.

At the late linen-market in Dublin, fine linens met an extremely dull sale. Coarse goods, particularly those rated for bounty, were in brisk demand, particularly half bleached yard wides, and seven-eighth wides, which in general brought a good profit to the seller. Many of the coarse linens sold were for Spain, and some for the West Indies. Since the market coarse linens have risen greatly in the brown markets.

Shipments of linens, damask, and large quantities of Irish calicoes, have taken place to Rio Janeiro, and Demerara, during this month from Belfast, and also of linens, and calicoes, to New York, but by no means in such large quantities as usual to the latter port.

The work of reconciliation with America will probably be very difficult. It is easier to irritate by unwise councils, than to restore harmony once interrupted. The last advices from America, by the packet lately arrived at Falmouth, have a hostile aspect, and the postponement of the negotiation to the meeting of Congress, in next month, forebodes a slow approach to returning confidence.

Flax is gradually declining in price. Last month best Petersburg was at 115*l.* to 112*l.* per ton in Liverpool. It afterwards fell to 106*l.* and was still lower in London, down to 100*l.* per ton. This month, the price after some fluctuation is sinking in England, owing to the large arrivals from the Baltic. In consequence, the price of flax in Ireland, has been considerably depressed. In Newry and Armagh the sale is very dull on market days, and the holders of the stock in the warehouses are very willing to sell. They remember the failure of the attempt at monopoly last year, and the consequent losses which some sustained.

The quality of the new flax appears much superior to the growth of the two last years.

The depreciation of bank notes in England is daily becoming more generally an avowed fact, and a regular discount of about $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, between them and guineas, is the present acknowledged rate. The question is now no longer confined to the trade of Belfast, or the province of Ulster. It is a concern affecting the whole empire. In England the fact of depreciation was long denied, because no branch of their trade was exclusively carried on in guineas, but the unfavourable state of exchange on the continent discovered the real situation of their paper currency. There can be no doubt that since bank notes have by the restriction act been prevented from being paid in specie, whenever bank notes and guineas come into competition, notes will sink to a discount proportioned to a demand for the guineas. The excessive issue of Bank of England paper, raised from 11 to 20 millions, besides the greatly extended circulation of private banks, has produced a crisis, of which it is difficult to prognosticate the issue. In the all-grasping struggle for the largest share of the appropriation of wealth, the holders of Bank of England stock, have come off, for the present, gainers; as since the restriction, and in consequence of it, their stock has risen from 137 to 279 per cent. This rise cannot however be attributed to national prosperity. Let them be again forced to pay their notes in specie, and the mighty super-structure crumbles.

In Belfast, exchange on London, has been through this month, at about $8\frac{3}{4}$ for notes and $6\frac{1}{2}$ for guineas; the discount on notes, 2 to $2\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. In Dublin exchange has rated from $8\frac{1}{4}$ to $8\frac{3}{4}$; discount on 61 days, Dublin Bills, is in Belfast 1*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* per cent. The Lurgan bank discounts in Armagh, Dungannon, &c. at 1*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.*

MEDICAL REPORT.

*List of Diseases occurring in the practice of a Physician in Belfast, from
September 20, till October 20.*

| | | | | |
|--------------------------------|----|---|----------------------------------|----|
| Barometer....highest - - - - - | 30 | 3 | Thermometer....highest - - - - - | 60 |
| lowest - - - - - | 29 | 0 | lowest - - - - - | 56 |
| mean - - - - - | 29 | 6 | mean - - - - - | 40 |

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|----|---|
| <i>Typhus</i> , - - - - - | 2 | Common contagious fever. |
| <i>Hectica Scrophulosa</i> , - - - | 1 | Hectic fever produced by evil. |
| <i>Ophthalmia</i> , - - - - - | 6 | Inflammation of the eyes. |
| <i>Cynanche tonsillaris</i> , - - - | 2 | Quinsey |
| <i>Rheumatismus acutus</i> , - - - | 2 | Acute rheumatism. |
| <i>Arthrodynia</i> , - - - - - | 2 | Chronic do. |
| <i>Podagra</i> , - - - - - | 1 | Gout. |
| <i>Erysipilas</i> - - - - - | 2 | Saint Anthony's fire. |
| <i>Phlyctenodes</i> - - - - | 1 | Shingles. |
| <i>Variola discreta</i> , - - - - | 6 | Distinct small pox. |
| <i>confluens</i> , - - - - | 4 | Confluent do. |
| <i>Rubeola</i> , - - - - - | 15 | Measles. |
| <i>Scarlatina</i> , - - - - - | 3 | Scarlet fever. |
| <i>Hæmoptysis</i> , - - - - - | 1 | Spitting of blood. |
| <i>Phthisis</i> , - - - - - | 2 | Consumption. |
| <i>Hæmorrhoids</i> , - - - - - | 2 | Piles. |
| <i>Hypochondriasis</i> , - - - - | 1 | Hypochondriac disease, or "hips." |
| <i>Asthma</i> , - - - - - | 2 | Asthma. |
| <i>Hysteria</i> , - - - - - | 2 | Hysterics. |
| <i>Hydrocephalus internus</i> , - - | 2 | Dropsy of the brain. |
| <i>Scrophula</i> , - - - - - | 6 | Evil. |
| <i>Ranula</i> , - - - - - | 1 | |
| <i>Psora</i> , - - - - - | 4 | Itch. |
| <i>Herpes</i> , - - - - - | 4 | Tetter. |
| <i>Lues venerea</i> , } - - - | 10 | Venereal disease. |
| <i>Gonorrhœa</i> , } | | |
| <i>Morbi infantiles</i> , - - - - | 20 | Febrile and bowel complaints of children. |

It is an observation founded on truth, that pleasure and pain, happiness and unhappiness are pretty evenly balanced in this life, and our present catalogue tends strongly to confirm it, for although from inspection the number of diseases which occasionally terminate fatally in the adult, are very few when compared with our former